Empowering Communities. Changing Lives.

August 25, 2014

Mr. Tom Wheeler, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 14-57

## Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I am reaching out to the Commission on behalf of the Urban League of Greater Atlanta, an organization dedicated to fostering economic empowerment in order to elevate the standard of living in historically underserved urban communities, to express our support for the proposed transaction between Comcast and Time Warner Cable.

Our work with Comcast on broadband adoption, including Internet Essentials, has shown us how strongly the company values diversity and inclusion within the communities they serve. We have partnered with Comcast as both an Internet Essentials training partner and a job-training partner, both of which are crucial to empowering youth, adults and families to become proficient in the use of digital technology, gain access to the internet at affordable rates for education and job search purposes and secure the technology skills required to obtain and sustain long term employment. Digital literacy skills empower our communities to become self-sufficient and have the tools necessary to move up the economic ladder and give back to their communities. Our continued and long standing partnership with Comcast has enabled us to be even more successful in helping our clients to achieve their highest human potential and secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and civil rights.

Our goal is for our continued partnership with Comcast to play an important role in helping our region's citizens close the "digital divide." The Internet Essentials program is narrowing that divide nationwide. More than 350,000 lower-income families have subscribed to the initiative's affordable home Net connection and low-cost hardware. We are hopeful that many more young people and families throughout the country can connect to a more prosperous future via Essentials with the continued and expanded support of Comcast for the program. Youth and their parents can take advantage of educational and professional offerings to achieve at all levels and affordable access to the internet is "essential" to their future.

Through its supplier and internal diversity programs, Comcast's corporate culture encourages job creation and corporate advancement that capitalizes on the diverse business community and talent of the communities Comcast serves. We've learned about the company's commitment to inclusion, both internally and externally. The company spent more than \$1 billion with diverse top-tier suppliers in 2013 alone. A quarter of Comcast's upper-level employees are people of color and we encourage Comcast to continue its commitment and expansion of executive and middle management level opportunities for talented and qualified African Americans and other people of color as a competitive strategy that benefits all. That level of business leadership ensures broad representation at all levels of the company's affairs; we understand that minorities form approximately 2/5 of the total employee base.

Having the opportunity to work and partner with committed corporate citizens is the foundation for success in our organization. The proposed transaction will give Comcast the capacity to expand its existing partnerships and afford more organizations the opportunity to partner and benefit from the community investment Comcast brings to their markets. For these reasons, we urge you to grant approval for the proposed merger from a community perspective as it will enable Comcast to fulfil and exceed its commitments to empower communities through the resources that this merger will provide.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our long standing partnership with Comcast and we look forward to taking our partnership to the next level of impact.

Sincerely,

Nancy Flake Johnson President and CEO

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